

REMARKS

The Board's Decision of June 16, 2009, has been received and reviewed.

The Board has reversed the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-3, 5, and 7-19 and has affirmed the Examiner's rejections of claims 20-27, 29, and 31-33.

Reconsideration of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 5, and 7-19

The Board has reversed the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-3, 5, and 7-19 based on secondary considerations of nonobviousness. *See* Decision of June 16, 2009. As the Board has found the secondary considerations of non-obviousness that have been presented to be convincing, it is respectfully submitted that the secondary considerations are applicable to any rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) that could be presented against claims 1-3, 5, and 7-19.

The allowance of claims 1-3, 5, and 7-19 is respectfully solicited.

Claims 20-27, 29, and 31-33

The Examiner's 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections of claims 20-27, 29, and 31-33 were affirmed because these claims were broadly drawn to articles of manufacture, while the secondary considerations of nonobviousness applied to bowling balls. Decision of June 16, 2009, pages 17-18.

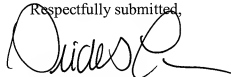
In view of the guidance that the Board has provided in its decision, independent claim 20 has been amended. As amended, independent claim 20 is directed to a method for manufacturing a bowling ball—a method to which the secondary considerations of nonobviousness apply. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 20, and its dependent claims 21-26, are also allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claims 27, 29, and 31-33 have also been amended. Specifically, these claims, as amended, are drawn to bowling balls rather than to “articles of manufacture.” As claims 27, 29, and 31-33 are limited to bowling balls, the secondary considerations of nonobviousness that have been presented in the above-referenced application are applicable to these claims, and each of these claims is allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

In view of the foregoing, the allowance of claims 20-27, 29, and 31-33 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that each of claims 1-3, 5, 7-27, 29, and 31-33 is allowable. An early notice of the allowability of each of these claims is respectfully solicited, as is an indication that the above-referenced application has been passed for issuance. If any issues preventing allowance of the above-referenced application remain which might be resolved by way of a telephone conference, the Office is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,


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